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Urban District Council.



Report of the Medical Officer of Health
for the Year 1903.

Annual Report for 1903.



GENTLEMEN,

It is once more my duty to submit for your consideration my Annual Report of the Sanitary condition of the District as well as the year's workings, its bearings upon the vital Statistics, and our control over the Infectious or Zymotic diseases.

Population.—It is always a difficult matter to accurately estimate the Population of a Town annually. There are so many factors to take into consideration in a manufacturing town. This year I am adding 100 to the population. I do not think there has been any exodus from the District, and with the working again of the Collieries a few families have returned. The number of births over deaths being 115, and there having been 23 more births in 1903 than 1902, it is fair to assume that the population is increasing, not decreasing.

Births.—During the year, 299 births (164 males, 135 females) have been registered. The birthrate for the year is at the rate of 26.00 per 1000, for 1902 it was 24.24. The birthrate for England and Wales is 28.4

Below you will see the number of births arranged in quarters for the last 4 years, also the numbers annually for the last 10 years—for the last 2 years divided into sexes.

	1900	1901	1902	1903
1st Quarter ending March 31	83	82	80	69
2nd „ „ June 30	76	83	68	88
3rd „ „ Sept. 30	69	65	61	63
4th „ „ Dec. 31	73	68	67	79
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	301	298	276	299

	males	females		males	females
1902—1st Quarter	40	40	1903	47	22
2nd „	34	34	„	46	42
3rd „	29	32	„	36	27
4th „	33	34	„	35	44
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	136	142		164	135

Number of births for the last 10 years :—

In 1894	-	256	In 1900	-	301
„ 1895	-	262	„ 1901	-	298
„ 1896	-	239	„ 1902	-	276
„ 1897	-	317	(136 males 142 females)		
„ 1898	-	314	In 1903	-	299
„ 1899	-	268	(164 males 135 females)		

Deaths.—We will now turn our attention to the deaths that have taken place, and compare their numbers and causes, etc., with those of previous years—There have been 184 deaths registered, 103 males, 81 females. Of these, 8 (7 males and 1 female) were non-residents,—4 from Ravensthorpe, 1 from Liversedge, 1 from Batley, 1 from Heckmondwike, and 1 unknown. Again there were 4 deaths (2 males and 2 females) of residents dying at the West Riding Lunatic Asylum. Also there were 3 deaths (1 male, 2 females) from Smallpox at Dewsbury. There were no deaths at the Union Workhouse. Thus deducting the 8 deaths and adding the 7, we reduce the number to 183, the correct deathrate for the year being 15.91. The deathrate for England and Wales is 15.4, this being the lowest deathrate ever recorded for England and Wales.

Below you will see the number of deaths arranged according to the different quarters, and the sexes :—

	1902		1903	
	males	females	males	females
Quarter ending March 31	23	32	23	19
„ „ June 30	30	24	20	19
„ „ Sept. 30	16	22	27	15
„ „ Dec. 31	28	22	33	28
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	97	100	103	82

I again submit a tabulated list of deaths for the last 3 years, for each month, at the different age periods into which

the deaths are now arranged :—

For 1901 :—	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apl	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	T'tls
Under 1 year ...	3	5	2	6	2	2	3	7	4	1	1	4	40
1 year & under 5 yrs.	1	2	2	1	1	nil	nil	nil	1	1	nil	4	13
5 years " 15 "	1	nil	1	nil	2	nil	2	1	nil	nil	nil	nil	7
15 " " 25 "	2	nil	1	1	1	nil	1	nil	nil	1	nil	nil	7
25 " " 65 "	5	8	7	4	9	4	7	4	5	7	4	8	72
65 " and upwards	9	9	5	4	4	4	2	4	2	2	4	5	54
Total ...	21	24	18	16	19	10	15	16	12	12	9	21	193

For 1902 :—	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apl	May	June	July	Aug	Sep.	Oct.	Nov	Dec	T'tls
Under 1 year ...	3	2	7	5	5	2	nil	3	4	5	2	1	39
1 year & under 5 yrs.	1	1	3	1	2	3	3	1	1	1	3	nil	20
5 years " 15 "	nil	nil	1	nil	2	nil	nil	nil	1	1	1	1	7
15 " " 25 "	2	nil	1	nil	1	nil	2	2	nil	1	nil	1	10
25 " " 65 "	9	7	8	6	6	6	3	3	5	4	8	9	74
65 " and upwards.	4	2	4	3	8	4	6	2	2	2	4	6	47
Total ...	19	12	24	15	24	15	14	11	13	14	18	18	197

For 1903 :—	Jan.	Feb	Mar	Apl	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	T'tls
Under 1 year ...	1	1	3	4	2	3	2	2	3	2	3	7	33
1 year & under 5 yrs	nil	2	2	3	3	nil	nil	3	4	1	1	3	22
5 years " 15 "	nil	2	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	3	nil	nil	nil	5
15 " " 25 "	nil	nil	nil	2	nil	nil	nil	nil	1	nil	1	nil	4
25 " " 65 "	8	7	6	6	3	2	4	4	3	7	8	8	66
65 " and upwards.	5	3	2	4	4	3	8	2	3	6	7	7	54
Total ...	14	15	13	19	12	8	14	11	17	16	20	25	184

Also yearly for 10 years :—

	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	T'tls
Under 1 year ...	41	38	44	39	42	31	47	40	39	33	394
1 year & under 5 yrs	24	26	39	23	15	19	23	13	20	22	224
5 years " 15 "	10	11	17	5	12	7	5	7	7	5	86
15 " " 25 "	21	8	18	5	12	7	9	7	10	4	101
25 " " 65 "	61	72	61	52	82	74	72	72	74	66	686
65 " and upwards...	38	45	50	42	55	51	40	54	47	54	476
Total ..	195	200	229	166	218	189	196	193	197	184	1967

The infant mortality on the 34 deaths is 113.71, but on 33, deducting the death of a non-resident is 110.33 per 1000 births registered. For 1902 it was 141.3

The infant mortality for England & Wales is 132.

„ „ 76 great Towns is 144.
 „ „ 103 smaller Towns is 135.
 „ „ England & Wales (less 179 Towns)
 is 118


I also give the number of deaths according to sex at the said age periods for 1902 & 1903 :—

	1902.			1903.		
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
Infants under 1 year	18	21	39	21	12	33
1 year and under 5 years	11	9	20	12	10	22
5 years „ 15 „	5	2	7	4	1	5
15 „ „ 25 „	1	9	10	3	1	4
25 „ „ 65 „	42	32	74	40	26	66
65 „ and upwards	20	27	47	24	30	54
Total	97	100	197	104	80	184

I will now classify the diseases which have been the cause of death at their different age periods for 1902 & 1903.

Infants under 1 year, for 1902 & 1903 :—

	In 1902.		In 1903.	
Premature birth	3	7	
Inanition, Convulsions, &c	11	8	
Bronchitis	7	4	
Broncho-Pneumonia	3	1	
Dentition	2	1	
Measles	6	nil	
Whooping Cough	2	3	
Enteritis (Diarrhœa)	4	4	
Found dead in bed	1	nil	
Scarlet Fever	—	1	
Meningitis	—	2	
Tuberculosis	—	1	
Spina Bifida	—	1	
Total		39	33	



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1 year & under 5 years for 1901, 1902, & 1903:—

		1901	1902	1903
Broncho-Pneumonia	...	nil	3	2
Pneumonia	..	nil	1	1
Bronchitis	..	1	1	4
Measles	...	1	3	nil
Meningitis (Tubercular)	...	1	3	3
Convulsions	...	nil	1	3
Phthisis	..	2	1	nil
Scarlet Fever	...	nil	3-(1 L.)	nil
Jaundice	...	nil	1	1
Dentition	...	2	1	2
Heart	...	nil	1	1
Enteritis (Diarrhœa)	...	2	1	2
Whooping Cough	...	1	nil	3
Typhoid Fever	...	1—Lvsg	nil	nil
Diphtheria	...	1	nil	nil
Burns	...	1	nil	nil
Total		13	20	22

5 years & under 15 years :—

		1901	1902	1903
Tubercular (Brain)	...	nil	2	nil
„ Bowels	...	2	nil	nil
„ Lungs	...	1	1	nil
Diphtheria	...	1	nil	nil
Typhoid Fever	...	nil	1-Lvsg	nil
Scarlet Fever	...	1	nil	nil
Measles	...	nil	1	nil
Nephritis	...	1	nil	nil
Influenza	...	nil	1	nil
Dyspepsia	...	1	nil	nil
Burns	...	nil	1	nil
Drowning	...	nil	nil	1
Pneumonia	..	nil	nil	1
Membranous Croup	...	nil	nil	1
Heart	...	nil	nil	1
Septic Pharyngitis	...	nil	nil	1
		7	7	5

15 years & under 25 :—

		1901	1902	1903
Acute Peritonitis	...	2	nil	nil

Broncho-Pneumonia	...	1	nil	nil
Pneumonia	...	1	1	nil
Measles	...	nil	1	nil
Typhoid Fever	...	1-non-res	1-non-res	nil
Heart Disease	...	nil	2	nil
Phthisis Pulmonalis	...	nil	1	nil
Tubercular Meningitis	...	nil	1	nil
Gastric Ulcer	...	nil	1-non-res	nil
Cerebral Abs	...	nil	1	nil
Puerperal Septic	...	nil	nil	1
Apoplexy	...	nil	nil	1
Locomotor Ataxy	...	nil	nil	1
Drowning	...	nil	1	nil
Fractured Spine	...	nil	nil	1
		5	10	4

25 years & under 65 years:—

		1901	1902	1903
Bronchitis	...	7	3	6
Pneumonia	...	4	7	6
Broncho-Pneumonia	...	1	nil	1
Heart Disease	...	16	15	10
Hemiplegia Apoplexy	...	4	7	8
Osteo-Arthritis	...	1	nil	nil
Phthisis Pulmonalis	...	5	10	7
Enteritis (Diarrhœa)	...	2	nil	nil
Typhoid Fever	...	3 (1 n.r.)	1 (n.r.)	1
Puerperal Fever &c.	...	1	nil	nil
Bright's Disease	...	6	2	2
Cirrhosis of Liver	...	2	1	nil
Alcoholism	...	1	nil	nil
Epilepsy	...	1	nil	nil
Ulcer	...	1	nil	nil
Malignant Disease	...	12	6	3
Hernia	...	2	nil	nil
Biliary Colic	...	1	nil	nil
Diabetes	...	1	nil	2
Suicides	...	1	3	1 ?
Accidents	...	nil	3	4
Erysipelas	...	nil	1	nil
Septic Inflammns	...	nil	3	2
Pernicious Anæmia	...	nil	2	nil
Lead c Anæmia	...	nil	1	nil
Gout	...	nil	1	nil
Nephritis	...	nil	3	nil

Cirrhosis of Kidneys	...	nil	I (n.r.)	nil
Tubercular Joints...	...	nil	I	nil
Pericarditis	...	nil	I	nil
Appendicitis	...	nil	I	nil
Intestinal Obsy.	...	nil	I	nil
Locomotor Ataxy	...	nil	nil	I
Meningitis	...	nil	nil	3
Pleurisy	...	nil	nil	2
Hæmorrhage	...	nil	nil	I
Tuberculous Kidneys &c.	...	nil	nil	I
Influenza & Bronchitis	...	nil	nil	I
Subacute Myelitis...	...	nil	nil	I
Ulceration of Bowel	...	nil	nil	I
Acute Enteritis	...	nil	nil	2
Total		72	74	66

65 years and upwards:—

	1901	1902	1903
Heart Disease	10	7	11
Apoplexy	6	6	8
Senile Decay	8	11	5
Bronchitis	7	9	8
Malignant Disease	4	3	5
Rheumatism	nil	2	nil
Accidents	nil	2	2
Suicides	nil	nil	I
Sudden death	I	I	nil
Diabetes	nil	I	nil
Jaundice	nil	I	nil
Tuberculosis	2	I	nil
Senile Gangrene	2	I	2
Cirrhosis of Liver	2	I	nil
Softening of Brain	nil	I	4
Pneumonia	3	nil	nil
Broncho-Pneumonia	2	nil	nil
Laryngitis	I	nil	nil
Influenza	I	nil	nil
Cystitis	2	nil	nil
Paraplegia	I	nil	nil
Diarrhœa	I	nil	2
Dyspepsia	I	nil	nil
Bright's Disease	2	nil	nil
Septic Inflammation	nil	nil	I
Intestinal Obstruction	nil	nil	3

Phthisis ...	...	...	nil	nil	1
Gastritis ...	...	...	nil	nil	1
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
			54	47	54

Phthisis Pulmonalis, Tubercular disease of the Lungs—8 deaths have been registered as having taken place during the year—one having died at the Memorial Hospital resided at Ravensthorpe I have not included : of these 8, 5 were males and 3 females, and resided at Upper Hopton, Wellhouse Lane, Camm Lane, Old Bank Road, Roe Head, Sunny Bank Road, Lower Hopton, and Knowl. 2 died in January, 1 in May, 1 in July, 2 in August,, and 1 in December.

Occupation—Their occupations were all different, viz : Dressmaker 1. Colliery Deputy 1, Farmer 1, Stone Mason 1, Painter 1, Agent for Insurance Co. 1, 2 of no occupation (housework).

Ages—2 at 30 yrs , 1 at 35, 2 at 39, 2 at 48, 1 at 65.

In 1902 there were 12 deaths.

Number of deaths for 11 years :—

In 1893 there were 20 deaths.				In 1899 there were 15 deaths			
" 1894	"	27	"	" 1900	"	10	"
" 1895	"	19	"	" 1901	"	8	"
" 1896	"	14	"	" 1902	"	12	"
" 1897	"	11	"	" 1903	"	8	"
" 1898	"	18	"	<hr/>			
				Total 162 deaths.			

There have also been 7 deaths, mostly children, of a tuberculous character.

Pneumonia, Pleurisy, Bronchitis, and Broncho-Pneumonia—32 deaths, 21 from Bronchitis, 7 from Pneumonia, and 3 from Broncho-Pneumonia. 19 were males, 13 females. In 1902 there were 35, and in 1901 32 deaths from diseases of the respiratory system. The deaths occurred in the following months.

January 1, February 3, March 2, April 2, May 3, June 1, July 1, August 2, September 1, October 2, November 5, December 9.

Inquests were held on 2, who died suddenly before medical assistance could be obtained.

The occupation of the adults—males: Stonemason 1, Grocer 1, Boot & Shoe Maker 1, Coal Teamer 1, Labourer 1, Lamplighter 1, Coal Miner 1, Woollen Spinner 1, Maltster Labourers 2, Colliery Banksman (an old man) 1.

Deaths not certified—None. Inquests having been held instead.

Cancer.—9 persons have died from this disease—3 males, 6 females. 3 of these (1 male and 2 females) were non-residents, 1 from Batley, and the others from Ravensthorpe. As in 1902, women have been the greater victims.

1902.	1903.
2 males, 7 females.	3 males, 6 females.

This year the low lying parts do not claim the greatest number—only 4 out of the 9. Batley 1. Crossley Lane 1. Lee Green 1. East-thorpe 1. Ravensthorpe 2. Flash Lane 1. Knowl 1. Snake Hill 1.

Ages—Males—42, 67, 81. Females—79, 52, 44, 57, 68, 74.

I should like to think this disease is declining from our midst, instead of increasing as it is in many places. I can only give you this year the numbers for 5 years, viz :

1899	21 deaths.	1902	9 deaths, 1 being a non-resident.
1900	12 "	1903	9 " 3 being non-residents.
1901	18 "		

Inquests.—15 inquests have been held during the year on 11 males, and 4 females—2 males were non-residents, 7 of these deaths, all males, were due to accidents, e.g. 1—concussion of the brain, &c., from falling down a hoist. 2—fractured spine from fall of roof in a coal mine. 3—a child accidentally fell into the river (a non-resident). 4—a fractured thigh. an old man, 75 years, falling down steps. 5—a Teamer fell off his cart. 6—a Railway man (a Guard) killed by a passing train in a dense fog. 7—a young man, fractured spine while playing football. 8—a man, aged 65 years, committed suicide by hanging, occupation farmer. 9—a man unknown, about 45 years of age, taken out of the Calder & Hebble Canal. The cause of the remaining 6 deaths, apoplexy 1, Heart Failure 4, Bronchitis &c. 1.

In 1897	there were	15	Inquests.
" 1898	"	12	"
" 1899	"	15	"

In 1900 there were 19 Inquests.

"	1901	"	6	"
"	1902	"	13	"
"	1903	"	15	"

Zymotic Diseases.

I think this year a slight alteration should be made in the tabulated list of deaths from Zymotic disease, if we are to have an exact record that will serve not only for the present time, but also for future reference. I therefore propose giving two lines for those Fevers which are generally removed to the Fever Hospitals. Some in 1903 were removed out of the Township, and ought to be included in our returns. Another year Scarlet Fever must be separated.

Table of deaths from Zymotic disease for 10 years.

	94	95	96	97	98	99	1900	1901	02	03	T'tl.
Smallpox ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
„ (away) ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
Scarlet Fever ...	0	1	13	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	25
Measles ...	0	10	15	0	2	1	4	2	11	0	45
Typhoid Fever ...	0	0	2	1	2	1	2	4	0	1	13
Continued „ ...	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Diarrhœa ...	4	4	2	8	9	2	3	7	1	6	46
Diphtheria ...	3	2	4	2	0	1	2	2	0	1	17
Membranous Croup .	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	5
Erysipelas ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	4
Puerperal Fever ...	1	0	1	2	1	0	1	0	0	3	9
Whooping Cough ...	6	0	8	7	2	1	2	1	2	6	35
Total ..	16	18	47	22	19	8	18	17	17	21	203

Smallpox.—There have been six cases of this disease during the year—4 males, 2 females. Two had been vaccinated; one death, a male 51 years of age, vaccinated in infancy. The other also a male, 15 years of age, a very mild case.

The other four were unvaccinated, two deaths, both females, one aged 32, the other aged 14. The mortality has been very high, viz: 50 per cent. We were never able to ascertain exactly where the Infection was caught, the disease being then very prevalent in Dewsbury, it is more than probable they

caught the infection from there. However, I think you will all agree with me that the measures adopted to prevent the spread of the disease were very successful, we had not a second case occurring in the same house nor its immediate neighbourhood.

The 1st case occurred on May 12th.

„ 2nd	„ „	June 13th.
„ 3rd	„ „	July 11th.
„ 4th	„ „	July 26th.
„ 5th	„ „	August 15th.
„ 6th	„ „	„ 16th.

and in different parts of the parish, viz: S. Mary's Terrace, King Street, Towngate, Knowl, Wellhouse Lane, Greenside. The cases were all removed to the Dewsbury Smallpox Hospital.

Scarlet Fever.—11 cases, (6 males, 5 females) no deaths, all treated at the Crossley Hospital. It is much more satisfactory to all parties, and there is not nearly as much risk of the disease spreading if the case is removed at once. You will see by the annexed table 1903 compares very favourably with the last 7 years. The disease broke out in the following places:—Flash Lane, Northorpe, Crossley Lane, Sunny Bank Road (this was imported, and really a non-resident), Old Bank, Knowl, and Bracken Hill.

	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	Total
January	13 ...	1 ...	7 ...	2 ...	0 ...	1 ...	0 ...	24
February	0 ...	17 ...	9 ...	2 ...	6 ...	2 ...	1 ...	37
March	6 ...	5 ...	8 ...	1 ...	3 ...	9 ...	3 ...	35
April	7 ...	4 ...	9 ...	0 ...	1 ...	5 ...	0 ...	26
May	1 ...	5 ...	6 ...	3 ...	5 ...	8 ...	0 ...	28
June	0 ...	5 ...	5 ...	1 ...	5 ...	7 ...	3 ...	26
July	1 ...	2 ...	5 ...	3 ...	3 ...	1 ...	0 ...	15
August	2 ...	4 ...	1 ...	3 ...	2 ...	1 ...	0 ...	13
September	9 ...	7 ...	1 ...	2 ...	3 ...	3 ...	0 ...	25
October	9 ...	9 ...	0 ...	3 ...	10 ...	3 ...	1 ...	35
November	11 ...	5 ...	5 ...	1 ...	1 ...	2 ...	2 ...	27
December	7 ...	10 ...	2 ...	3 ...	0 ...	1 ...	1 ...	24
Total	66	74	58	24	39	43	11	315

Diphtheria & Membranous Croup.—6 cases (4 males, 2 females), 1 death. In 1902 there were no cases. This disease appeared at the following places and time:—January 2, at Lower Hopton. February 1, at Lower Hopton (died), April 1, at Knowl. Sep. 3, at Flash Lane, Snake Hill, and Upper Hopton.

Typhoid Fever.—5 cases—3 males, 2 females, 1 death. In 1902, 3 cases—2 males, 1 female, no death. In 1901, 6 cases, 2 deaths. There were 2 cases at Upper Hopton in April, sisters, both recovered. 1 went to Crossley Hospital. 1 in July, at Lower Hopton, treated at home, recovered. 1 in October, from Upper Row, removed to Crossley, this case proved fatal. 1 in November, from West End, also removed to Crossley, recovered. You are again to be congratulated upon the almost immunity from this disease,

Whooping Cough.—6 deaths—3 males, 3 females. 3 of the deaths were infants under 1 year, and the other 3 under 2. This disease was very prevalent in March and April at Lee Green and Old Bank Road, 5 of the 6 deaths occurring in that locality. The other death took place at Knowl in December.

Sufficient care is not taken to keep the children suffering from Whooping Cough at home, they should not be allowed to go out, taking cold themselves, and infecting others.

Measles.—There were no deaths from this disease during the year.

Erysipelas.—10 cases, no deaths.—3 males, 7 females. In 1902, 10 cases, 1 death. In 1901, 8 cases, no deaths. There were 2 cases in May, 1 in July, 1 in August, 1 in September, 3 in Oct., and 1 in Dec. Ages—infant, 4 years, 7 years, 16 years, 19 years, 26 years, 46, 2 at 50. 1 at 67, and in the following places—2 at Nettleton Road, 1 at Battyeford, 1 at Lower Hopton, 1 at Towngate, 2 at Greenside, 1 at Old Bank Road, 1 at Fenton Folly, 1 at Northorpe.

Diarrhœa. (Zymotic Enteritis)—6 cases, 4 infants under 1 year, the remaining 2 being 15 & 17 months old. 2 died in August, and 4 in September, and their deaths took place 1 at Lowlands, 3 at Lower Hopton, 1 at Snakehill, and 1 at Northorpe.

Infectious Notification Act.

The number of cases notified during the year was 40, viz :—

Smallpox	...	...	6—3 deaths.
{ Diphtheria	...	...	6—no death
{ Membranous Croup	...	...	1—died
Scarlet Fever	...	...	11—no deaths
Typhoid Fever	...	...	5—1 death
Puerperal Fever	...	...	1—died
Erysipelas	...	...	10—no deaths

I will again give you the number of cases that have been notified since you adopted the Act, viz : Feby. 1st, 1890 :—

1890 (11 months)	41	...	deaths	14
1891	79	...	"	20
1892	60	...	"	7
1893	55	...	"	6
1894	34	...	"	5
1895	68	...	"	4
1896	394	...	"	22
1897	95	...	"	7
1898	106	...	"	6
1899	72	...	"	4
1900	153	...	"	9
1901	58	...	"	5
1902	57	...	"	3
1903	40	...	"	7

Water.—The Towns Water has been very plentiful during the year. There have been no complaints of Lead Poisoning. The Water does not now appear to dissolve lead to any appreciable extent ; this applies only to the cold water. Water should never be drawn from the hot water pipes for consumption.

Crossley Hospital.

This Hospital is continuing to do very useful work. The building has been kept in good repair. The patients are very well cared for by the Nursing Staff.

The premises as you know are being enlarged, or rather another building is being erected (which will be quite separate from the present one) for the treatment of Smallpox cases. The cost for Smallpox is so very great that the Board have decided to build, and treat the cases themselves. This really belongs to 1904.

The Sanitary work performed during 1903 has not been very much, in consequence of the long illness of your late Inspector, consequently the inspection of the Factories and Workshops has had to be postponed.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

THOMAS B. FAIRCLOUGH.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

July, 1904.

